

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 185569

61

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 L-03 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00

DLOS-06 OES-06 /038 R

DRAFTED BY EB/TCA/MA:JAPURNELL:BST

APPROVED BY EB/TCA/MA:RKBANK

L/EB:JRCROOK (SUBS)

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CUSTOMS:MR.CASEY (PARA 4, PHONE)

----- 034967

R 271825Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, VE

SUBJECT: ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FOREIGN-FLAG SHIPS

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. DEPT HAS RECEIVED A REPORT FROM THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MERCHANT SHIPPING (AIMS) ALLEGING THAT FOREIGN-FLAG SHIPS PAY CERTAIN PORT CHARGES AND TAXES THAT VENEZUELAN SHIPS DO NOT PAY, OR THAT FOREIGN-FLAG SHIPS PAY HIGHER CHARGES THAN VENEZUELAN-FLAG SHIPS.

2. DETAILS ARE AS FOLLOWS FOR PORT CHARGES:

PORT	FOREIGN VESSELS	VENEZUELAN VESS.
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PUERTO SUCRE	BS. 0.10	EXCUSED
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PAGE 02 STATE 185569

..... PER REGISTERED TON

..... PER VESSEL, MAXIMUM
..... OF BS. 200.00;
..... BS. 1.00 PER TON OF EXCUSED
..... CARGO LOADED/DIS-
..... CHARGED IN OVERTIME.

PORT FOREIGN VESSELS VENEZUELAN VESS.

CARUPANO BS. 0.10 PER REGIS- EXCUSED

..... TON PER VESSEL
..... MAX/200.00;
..... BS. 1.00 PER LOADED/ EXCUSED
..... DISCHARGED TON OF
..... CARGO, 1800 TO 2400
..... HOURS;
..... BS. 1.50 PER LOADED/ EXCUSED
..... DISCHARGED TON OF
/..... CARGO, 2400 TO 0700
..... HOURS, ON WORK DAYS;
..... BS. 1.50 PER LOADED/ EXCUSED
..... DISCHARGED TON OF
..... CARGO HOLIDAYS

LA GUAIRA BS. 1.20 PER DIS- BS. 1.00 PER
..... CHARGED TON DISCHARGED TON

3. MUNICIPAL TAXES: PUERTO CABELLO CHARGES FOREIGN-FLAG
VESSELS OF 1000 REGISTERED TONS OR OVER A TAX OF BS.
450.00, BUT CHARGES VENEZUELAN-FLAG VESSELS ONLY BS.225,
00, REPORTEDLY. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE INVESTIGATE THESE REPORTS
AND INFORM DEPT IF THEY ARE ACCURATE. CORPORACION
RINCON ORIGINALLY SUPPLIED THE INFORMATION TO DELTA STEAM-
SHIP LINES, WHICH PASSED IT ON TO AIMS AND THENCE TO THE
DEPARTMENT FOR ACTION. YOU MAY CONTACT CORPORACION RINCON
IN ORDER TO FACILITATE YOUR INVESTIGATION, BUT DO NOT
REVEAL TO GOV THAT DELTA INITIATED THE INQUIRY. YOU MAY
MENTION AIMS AS THE SOURCE OF THE REPORTS, IF ASKED.
THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT EXPECT THE EMBASSY TO SPEND AN
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PAGE 03 STATE 185569

INORDINATE AMOUNT OF TIME ON THIS MATTER, NOR DOES IT
EXPECT THE EMBASSY TO CONDUCT ON-THE-SCENE INVESTIGATIONS
IN EACH OF THE PORTS MENTIONED. IF THE GOV IS RELUCTANT
TO COOPERATE IN THE INVESTIGATION, IF IT DISCLAIMS
RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOCAL TAXES AND PORT CHARGES, AND REFERS
THE EMBASSY TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES, THE EMBASSY MAY MENTION
THAT IF THE ALLEGED DISCRIMINATORY CHARGES AND TAXES ARE AS
DESCRIBED ABOVE, THE USG WOULD HAVE TO DETERMINE WHETHER

THEY REQUIRE DENIAL OF NON-DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT GIVEN
VENEZUELAN-FLAG VESSELS UNDER U.S. LAW. KISSINGER

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04 MAY 2006

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Subject: ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION AGAINST FOREIGN-FLAG SHIPS BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: EWWT, VE
To: CARACAS
Type: TE
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